

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Previously Presented) A corrosion-resistive member having a corrosion-resistive face which is exposed to a corrosive gas causing ion bombardment, wherein at least a part of said corrosion-resistive member comprises a sintered silicon nitride body having an open porosity of not more than 5%, wherein the total content of elements in Group Ia and Groups 4a - 3b of the Periodic Table present in said sintered silicon nitride body is not more than 50 ppm by weight, and wherein said sintered silicon nitride body constitutes said corrosion-resistive face;

wherein if two auxiliary planes are formed by cutting said corrosion-resistive member to intersect vertically with said corrosion-resistive face and to be located vertically with respect to each other, an orientation index between said two auxiliary planes is in a range of 0.8 to 1.2, and an orientation index between said corrosion-resistive face and each of said auxiliary faces is not less than 1.5;

wherein said orientation index between the two auxiliary planes satisfies the following formula:

$$[Is1(320)/(Is1(320) + Is1(002))]/[Is2(320)/(Is2(320) + Is2(002))];$$

wherein Is1(320) denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 320 face of β -type silicon nitride in one "Is1" of the auxiliary planes; Is1(002) denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 002 face of β -type silicon nitride in the auxiliary planes "Is1"; Is2(320) denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 320 face of β -type silicon nitride in the other auxiliary plane "Is2"; and Is2(002) denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 002 face of β -type silicon nitride in the auxiliary planes "Is2"; and

wherein said orientation index between said corrosion-resistive face and each of said auxiliary planes satisfies the following formula:

$$[I_m(320)/(I_m(320) + I_m(002))]/[I_s(320)/(I_s(320) + I_s(002))];$$

wherein $I_m(320)$ denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 320 face of β -type silicon nitride in the corrosion-resistive face "m"; $I_m(002)$ denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 002 face of β -type silicon nitride in the corrosion-resistive face "m"; $I_s(320)$ denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 320 face of β -type silicon nitride in the auxiliary plane "Is"; and $I_s(002)$ denotes an intensity of X-ray diffraction at a 002 face of β -type silicon nitride in the auxiliary planes "Is".

3-9. (Cancelled)

2 ~~10.~~ (Previously Presented) The corrosion-resistive member set forth in claim ~~2~~,¹ wherein one or more metal elements selected from Group 2a and Group 3a in the Periodic Table are present in a total amount of 1 to 15 mol% in said sintered silicon nitride body as calculated externally in the form of the metal elements relative to said silicon nitride.

3 ~~11.~~ (Previously Presented) The corrosion-resistive member set forth in claim ~~10~~,² wherein said sintered silicon nitride body further comprises one or more elements selected from the group consisting of calcium, strontium, barium, magnesium, yttrium and lanthanoid elements.

4 ~~12.~~ (Previously Presented) The corrosion-resistive member set forth in claim ~~11~~,³ wherein said sintered silicon nitride body comprises one or more elements selected from the group consisting of magnesium, yttrium, cerium, samarium and lanthanum.

- 5 ~~13.~~ (Previously Presented) The corrosion-resistive member set forth in claim ~~10~~,
wherein at least one of said one or more metal elements selected from Group 2a and
Group 3a in the Periodic Table is in the form of an oxide. 2
- 6 ~~14.~~ (Previously Presented) The corrosion-resistive member set forth in claim ~~2~~,
wherein said corrosion-resistive member has a thermal conductivity of 50 W/m·K or
less. 1
- 7 ~~15.~~ (Previously Presented) The corrosion-resistive member set forth in claim ~~2~~,
wherein said corrosive gas is a halogen-based corrosive gas or a plasma of said
halogen-based corrosive gas. 1
- 8 ~~16.~~ (Previously Presented) A semiconductor-producing article comprising a
substrate comprising said corrosion-resistive members set forth in claim ~~2~~. 1